Prevention of flood in Assam due to Brahamputra River

4783. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH : Will the MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps proposed to prevent frequent flooding in the State of Assam due to Brahamputra River;

(b) whether Government are aware of the loss to the farmers and common people due to flood in the State during the last two decades; and

(c) whether any concrete proposals have been formulated in this regard, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Flood Management being a State subject, investigation, planning and implementation of flood management schemes are within the purview of the State Government. The Central Government renders assistance which are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

Considering the magnitude and complexity of the flood problem in the North East, the Government of India has set up Brahmaputra Board under an Act of Parliament i.e. Brahmaputra Board Act, 1980 (46 of 1980). The Board has prepared the Master Plans for the control of floods and bank erosion and improvement of drainage in the Brahmaputra and Barak Valley also given due regards to the development and utilisation the water resources for irrigation, hydropower, navigation and other beneficial use. These Master Plans which suggest various short term and long term measures for flood management have been sent to the concerned State Governments for implementation.

(b) The Government of India is aware of losses due to floods in Assam. As indicated by Government of Assam, during the last two decades i.e. 1982—2001, a loss of about Rs. 1400 crore has been assessed.

(c) Government of India has been providing Central Loan Assistance/ Grants-in-aid to Government of Assam to take up the flood management works from time to time. Currently Pagladiya Dam Project, Harrang Drainage Development Scheme and anti erosion works namely "Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dholla Hathighuli, Assam" are under execution by Brahmaputra Board under Central funding.

A scheme with an approved outlay of Rs. 150.00 crore (as Central Share) during 10th Plan for implementation of flood management schemes in the North Eastern States which includings the State of Assam also, is under finalisation.